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LB 312

in here. It would be redundant. But for all them reasons, I am supportive. But I want to add a little bit...something else to the conversation, and that is that when these people move to this state to take these jobs, which we want to get here, don't we also want them to live in the communities where they want to live? I've been very disappointed and it's been a hard pill to swallow for the Omaha Chamber to support Omaha annexation of my hometown, Elkhorn. I do not bring this up as a joke or anything funny. It is true that when these people move to town, a lot of them want to live out of town and in the small communities around, and Elkhorn and the small communities around the edge of Omaha have a lot of them people. And yet, the Omaha Chamber has made it a very big priority to make sure that Omaha can grow and those of us who live in these areas have no real understanding of what we are stopping. Would we lose our identity? No, I don't think we would. We would lose our services and we would pay more taxes. And you want us to lay down and say that's all right, that's fine? None of you would do that, and I don't think those in the Omaha Chamber would do that. We need more understanding and I think there ought to be more thought in what a lot of these people would like to have when they come to our state, if they're going to want to live in Omaha or they're going to want to live in a quiet community on the outer edges of Omaha. It has been mentioned that we would turn into a...same thing as happened in Saint Louis and some other cities, and the fact of it is that in looking into that, them cities and some of that growth that's happened down there, that that is not happening. I was told it would be the great white flight of Omaha if we didn't. I said, I think that's wrong to move that way anyway. We need more understanding and I think there should be some thought into bringing these businesses to town and wanting these people to move here and then telling them they can't live in the community they want to. Thank you.

SENATOR CUDABACK: Thank you, Senator Pedersen. Senator Stuhr, followed by Senator Baker.

SENATOR STUHR: Thank you, Mr. President and members of the body. I, too, am opposed to the bracket bill and I do support the concepts that are contained in LB 312. I do believe that we are at a crossroads in Nebraska and it's been repeatedly said